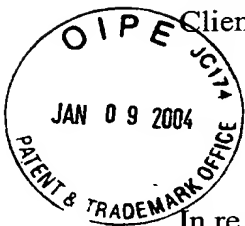


Attorney Docket: 021123-0278405

Client Reference: 990012 BT-B



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Confirmation Number: 3863

MOLENAAR et al.

Application No.: 09/852,157

Group Art Unit: 1652

Filed: May 10, 2001

Examiner: D. RAMIREZ

Title: PROCESS FOR PRODUCTION OF L-AMINO ACIDS BY FERMENTATION USING CORYNEFORM BACTERIA

January 9, 2003

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to an official action dated September 9, 2003, wherein the pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs, and the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. The applicants respectfully traverse in view of the following amendments and remarks.